REMARKS

Claims 8-20 are pending in this application, of which claims 1-7 have been canceled, and claims 11-17 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 18-20 are newly-added.

In the Advisory Action mailed October 25, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 8-10 are allowable and claims 1-7 are rejected.

Accordingly, claims 1-7 have been canceled and new claims 18-20 have been added to include the limitations of original claims 5-7, respectively, and to depend from claims 8-10, respectively.

In view of the aforementioned amendments, claims 8-20 are in condition for further examination.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/809,919 Preliminary Amendment

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,

HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

William L. Brooks (DARREN R. CREW)

REG. NO. 37,806

Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 34,129

WLB/ak Atty. Docket No. 040156 **Suite 1000** 1725 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 659-2930

23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Petition for Extension of Time Enclosures:

Request for Continued Examination Check in the amount of \$1,360.00

Q:\HOME\AKERR\WLB\04\040156\prelim amend nov 2006